

# July 18, 2014 Solar Stakeholder Group Steering Committee Meeting Notes

---

**July 18, 2014**  
**10:00 a.m. to approximately 3:30 p.m.**  
**Christian & Barton offices**  
**11-B Conference Room**  
**909 E. Main Street, Suite 1200, Richmond, VA 23219**

Damian Pitt (VCU) opened the meeting. Attendees introduced themselves and signed an [attendance sheet](#).

The meeting began with a discussion of the upcoming schedule for the SSG study. The steering committee (SC) has been tasked with presenting the 'elements of the draft plan' at the full SSG meeting on July 22nd in Charlottesville, and it is the hope that the group can confirm the overall approach at this point. The draft plan must reflect the stakeholder process in terms of being an agreed approach to study the value of solar (VOS) in Virginia.

The SC questioned how the study can add value beyond the State Corporation Commission studies, and recommended that they frame the study in terms of these previous reports and previous legislation in Virginia. SC agreed that the strength of the approach is that it is future looking and can work to accommodate different scenarios and objects such as EPA's 111(d). Also, the SC agreed to apply a southern U.S. region context to the report to help set the stage for Virginia's VOS.

The SC then discussed the different methodological options that would be presented by the report. The SC proposed a three-tiered approach presenting narrow, intermediate, and broad methodologies. The narrow approach would include a limited range of VOS categories, all of which are relevant in the current context. The intermediate approach would expand the analysis to include a wider range of VOS categories, while the broad approach would consider all possible VOS categories including those only relevant in the long-term and/or under high solar penetration levels.

The group then recessed the meeting for lunch.

After lunch, Gilbert Michaud (VCU) gave a [presentation on the feedback received thus far from each of the three SC sub-groups](#) outlining recommended approaches and potential data sources for their assigned VOS categories. The presentation solicited further input from all SC members, including those outside of each respective sub-group. For several of the variables to be included, the SC was able to come to consensus about a method and data sources. However, there was still debate on the approaches to a few of the variables, which was deemed as acceptable since the report is to be accommodating to points of disagreement by showing varying perspectives of the stakeholders.

The SC agreed to change the name of the 'fuel price hedge' variable to 'fuel price volatility' to better represent how the variable aims to measure the avoided fuel cost risk or reduced instability due to increased levels of distributed solar generation. The SC also agreed to separate the commonly grouped together variable of transmission & distribution into two different variables: 1) transmission,

and 2) distribution.

Within the discussion of each of the variable categories, the SC worked to determine where each variable should be analyzed in terms of this new methodology (narrow, intermediate, broad). Dr. Damian Pitt (VCU) agreed to work on a presentation to be given at the larger SSG meeting the following week, to reflect this new methodological approach as well as the new agreement and arrangement of the variable categories as decided by the SC.

Finally, Dr. Damian Pitt (VCU) initiated a discussion addressing proposed baseline models and solar PV penetration scenarios for the study. However, due to a lack of time, it was agreed that a presentation concerning this topic was to be given by Dr. Pitt at the larger SSG meeting as part of a special SC work session.

The SC tentatively agreed to hold the next SC meeting on August 6th in Richmond, with possible changes based on the desire to alternate SC meetings between Richmond and Fredericksburg.

The meeting was adjourned.

---

\*The official name of the group is Distributed Solar Generation and Net Metering Stakeholder Group.

***Future SSG Steering Committee Meetings (Tentative):***

*August 6, Fredericksburg; Others TBD*

***Future Full SSG Meetings (Tentative):***

*August 21; others TBD*

*At DOF in Charlottesville*